

## James A. Anderson, Jr.

Vice President-Government Relations

May 4, 2017

## To all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

I write on behalf of the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors (NAW) to reiterate our strong support for the *American Health Care Act* ("AHCA") and our intent to include **votes taken** in the House on or in relation to the AHCA as "key votes" for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

NAW is the "national voice of wholesale distribution," an association comprised of employers of all sizes, and national, regional, state and local line-of-trade associations spanning the \$5.6 trillion wholesale distribution industry that employs more than 5.9 million workers in the United States. Approximately 40,000 enterprises with places of business in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are affiliated with NAW.

NAW members believe that despite its good intentions, the Nation's seven-year *Affordable Care Act* ("ACA") experiment has yielded a health care system overly burdened by government mandates and taxes, with high premiums and out-of-pocket costs and limited access to care, and that movement toward a more market-oriented, patient-centered system is the surest path toward higher quality, lower cost and enhanced access. The AHCA represents real progress in this regard, the enactment of which will strengthen our private, voluntary employment-based health benefits system through which some 177 million Americans today acquire coverage. Of particular note in the AHCA are NAW-supported provisions to repeal employer mandate penalties; repeal the health insurance tax; repeal the medical device tax; expand the use of health savings accounts and flexible spending accounts; and delay until 2026 the implementation of the 40% excise tax on high-cost employer-sponsored coverage (the so-called "Cadillac Tax"). Our membership prefers the full and permanent repeal of the Cadillac Tax, and we look forward to continuing to work with Members on both sides of the aisle toward that end.

NAW urges the enactment of the *American Health Care Act* and again advises that **votes on or in relation to the AHCA will be considered "key votes" for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.** 

Thank you for your consideration of NAW's views.

Sincerely,

James A. Anderson, Jr.

Vice President-Government Relations

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